

INFORMATION REPORT

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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1. Goods are very plentiful in the shops of Varniai (55-44N, 22-22E) and Telsiai (55-59N, 22-14E), Lithuanian SSR. No food ration cards are necessary when making purchases. Prices prevailing early in 1951 included the following:

<u>Item</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Rubles</u>
Rye bread (from a government shop)	1 kg	2.5
Rye bread (on open market)	1 kg	5
Bacon	1 kg	35
Milk	1 liter	2
Chocolate	50 grams	9 - 18
Cocoa	1 kg	180
Beef	1 kg	15
Wheat flour	1 kg	12
Goose (on open market)	1	50 - 60
Working trousers	1 pr	100
Man's coat	1	300 - 800
Shoes	1 pr	150 - 150
Boots	1 pr	700 - 800
Bicycle (cheapest construction)	1	750

2. A worker on a sovkhos gets 20 to 30 rubles pay in cash weekly. A worker on a kolkhoz does not get any cash; his pay is the 30 to 60 ares of land which he is allowed to keep and for which he must pay about 80 rubles in taxes. In addition, when the kolkhoznik has a cow or chicken, he must deliver milk and eggs to the kolkhoz.

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3. One church in Varniai has been closed, the priest banished, and the building turned into a granary. The Protestant church in Telsiai is being used as a flour store.
4. Men between the ages of 18 and 45 have been mobilized. Some have been sent to Kaliningrad; others have sent letters home indicating that they were enroute to Korea.
5. Source estimates that 30 percent of all Lithuanians have been deported to Siberia. The decrease in population is noticeable in the villages. People deported from Varniai were taken to Telsiai, where they often remained in sheds for as long as three days without food while waiting for trains. Besides farmers, families of men who have joined the partisans are deported.
6. Despite exterminations, there are still many partisans in the raions of Varniai and Retavas. They live in bunkers in the forests and get their food from farmers. Partisans caught by the Russians are deported to Siberia.
7. There are many MGB and militia men in Varniai, Telsiai, and Plunge and many soldiers in Telsiai and Varniai. There were army maneuvers around Telsiai in 1951 in which tank units and artillery took part. When the maneuvers were finished, many of the soldiers left Telsiai in the direction of Tilsit.

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